



The Farm Bill

What it is & why it matters to NJ Farmers

What is the Farm Bill?

The Farm Bill, a.k.a. *The Agriculture Improvement Act*, is a massive package of legislation that impacts food, farming, conservation, energy, and much more, first enacted in response to the economic turmoil of the Great Depression. The Farm Bill is reauthorized about every 5 years.

How is the Farm Bill Devised?

Reauthorization: A new farm bill is written and passed into law approximately every five years through a combined effort by the House and the Senate.

Appropriations: Once the legislation is passed, money is set aside in the yearly federal budget to fund Farm Bill programs.

Rulemaking: After Congress passes a farm bill, the USDA is responsible for writing the rules for how Farm Bill programs will be implemented.

Evaluation: Programs are evaluated based on use, impact, and efficacy to inform future Farm Bill funding

What Programs are Affected?

Federal Grant programs, SNAP/WIC, Crop insurance programs, Conservation programs, Farm to School Grants, Loan programs, Research programs, and much more.

Scan the QR code to see a full list of impacted programs:



Farm Bill Titles

Title 1: Commodities covers price, income support, and disaster assistance for farmers producing commodity crops

Title 2: Conservation covers programs that help farmers implement natural resource conservation efforts on working lands like pasture and cropland as well as land retirement and easement programs

Title 3: Trade covers food export subsidy programs and international food aid programs.

Title 4: Nutrition covers the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program [SNAP] as well as a variety of smaller nutrition programs to help low-income Americans afford food.

Title 5: Credit covers federal loan programs designed to help farmers access financial credit

Title 6: Rural Development covers programs that help foster rural economic growth, business & community development, rural housing & infrastructure.

Title 7: Research, Extension, and Related Matters covers farm and food research, education, and extension programs designed to support innovation

Title 8: Forestry covers forest-specific conservation programs that help farmers and rural communities steward forest

Title 9: Energy covers programs that encourage growing and processing crops for biofuel, help farmers, ranchers and business owners install renewable energy systems, and support research related to energy.

Title 10: Horticulture covers farmers market and local food programs, funding for research and infrastructure for fruits, vegetables and other horticultural crops, and organic farming and certification programs.

Title 11: Crop Insurance provides premium subsidies to farmers, subsidies to the private crop insurance companies and also authorizes USDA's Risk Management Agency (RMA)

Title 12: Miscellaneous brings together six advocacy and outreach areas, including beginning, socially disadvantaged, and veteran farmers and ranchers, agricultural labor safety and workforce development, and livestock health.



Information courtesy of National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition

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